

AMENDING THE NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE ACT OF 1968

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 189, H.R. 804.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 804) to exclude from consideration as income certain payments under the national flood insurance program.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 804) was read the third time and passed.

AUTHORITY TO SUBMIT TRIBUTES TO CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senators be permitted to submit tributes to Chief Justice Rehnquist for the RECORD until September 30, 2005, and that all tributes be printed as a Senate document.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2005

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., on Friday, September 9. I further ask that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved, and the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 2862, the Science-Commerce-Justice appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, tomorrow, the Senate will resume consideration of a very important bill, the Commerce-Justice-Science appropriations bill, a large bill and a bill on which we have a number of amendments to be considered and a bill that does have a direct application to our disaster response to Katrina.

Although there will be no rollcall votes tomorrow, the managers will be here ready to continue with the amendment process and expedite consideration of the bill. We now have a limited number of first-degree amendments in order, and I encourage Senators to come to the floor tomorrow, as well as Monday, so that we can complete action on this bill early next week.

Monday evening, we will have an hour of debate followed by a vote on

the motion to proceed to S.J. Res. 20, a resolution of disapproval. That vote will occur at 6:30 p.m., and additional votes are possible into the evening.

Mr. President, in closing, this has been a challenging week for the entire country and, indeed, for the Senate as we have responded in an expeditious way to this natural disaster that the Nation has witnessed unfolding. We approached our response in the Senate at three different levels or three different phases or three different elements.

The first is this immediate action for relief and recovery, immediate response, quick action, considering legislation brought to the floor and setting other business aside to address that important immediate response.

We will continue to do that over the course of the next week and the week after that to make sure we address the needs that must be addressed at the Federal level through this body to facilitate the response to the disaster, focusing, of course, first and foremost on the safety and welfare of the victims.

Other immediate action was the \$10.5 billion that we passed last Thursday night and then the \$51.8 billion that we passed tonight, which will be signed here shortly and signed by the President within the next hour or so.

Another example is the Federal courts relief bill that we passed so that Louisiana Federal courts could be up and running with appropriate sites.

The second phase that is ongoing is the consideration of rebuilding, reconstruction, and this involves consideration of a whole range of issues through not all but most of our committees, in terms of redevelopment with strong economic incentives to capture the dynamism and the power of the private sector in partnership with the public sector.

It is going to take the strength of the public and the private sector working together to accomplish that successful rebuilding and reconstruction of a part of the country that can return and will return with a much more modern and revitalized future, a future that is actually very exciting as we look to the rebuilding and reconstruction, something to which the Governor, local officials, and the Federal Government are committed.

The third phase is analyzing very carefully what went right but probably even more importantly what went wrong in our response—meaning our generic response, everyone's response—to this natural disaster. Things did not go as well as anyone would like, Americans deserve answers, and we will get to the bottom of that.

We have established a bicameral, bipartisan committee with the House and the Senate working together to carry out that analysis. In addition, we have designated in this body the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee as the lead committee in oversight.

I mention these three elements because with so much activity, it is im-

portant for both our colleagues and the American people to know that we are working on each of these three elements with immediate action which requires expeditious consideration on the floor of the Senate; secondly, rebuilding and reconstruction to an even more modern and revitalized and very exciting future for the Gulf States; and thirdly, to investigate and analyze what went wrong.

We will continue with all of that over the course of the evening and tomorrow and through the weekend, and everybody will keep pulling together and acting in the best interest of the American people, with our thoughts and prayers going out to those people who have been so dramatically affected, along with the States, and who are now spread all over the United States of America.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:12 p.m., adjourned until Friday, September 9, 2005, at 9:30 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate September 8, 2005:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

CHARLES R. CHRISTOPHERSON, JR., OF TEXAS, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, VICE EDWARD R. MCPHERSON, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

EDWARD F. SPROAT III, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF CIVILIAN RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, VICE MARGARET S. Y. CHU, RESIGNED.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

DALE W. MEYERROSE, OF INDIANA, TO BE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE, (NEW POSITION)

IN THE COAST GUARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 271:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. WILLIAM D. BAUMGARTNER, 0000
CAPT. MANSON K. BROWN, 0000
CAPT. JOHN S. BURHOE, 0000
CAPT. WAYNE E. JUSTICE, 0000
CAPT. DANIEL B. LLOYD, 0000
CAPT. ROBERT C. PARKER, 0000
CAPT. BRIAN M. SALERNO, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD UNDER TITLE 14, U.S.C., SECTION 276:

To be captain

KATHLEEN M. DONOHUE, 0000

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RESERVES UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

DAVID K. ALMOND, 0000
JEFFREY S. BAUER, 0000
ROBERT H. CARMACK, 0000
SUSAN F. DAIGNAULT, 0000
DONALD M. HUGHES, 0000
CHARLES R. MARQUIS, 0000
BERNARD T. MORELAND, 0000
JAMES B. PENNEWELL, 0000
JEFFREY S. SAIN, 0000

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624: